



News Release

Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District
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For Immediate Release

BLM Wild Horse Adoption in Yakima a Success

Yakima, Wash. – Thirty five wild horses and sixteen burros left the Central Washington State Fairgrounds in Yakima this past weekend on their way to new homes. The Bureau of Land Management hosted the Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Event in conjunction with the Backcountry Horsemen Annual Rendezvous. An estimated 300 people watched the two wild horse gentling demonstrations given on Saturday by horse trainer Steve Rother.

A second adoption is scheduled this summer at the Northwest Washington Fairgrounds in Lynden on May 30 and 31. The BLM will offer 65 wild horses and 15 wild burros for public adoption. Also, the BLM is sponsoring a free wild horse and burro gentling demonstration by wild horse trainers Rick and Kitty Lauman.

Potential adopters can view the animals and register to adopt on Friday, May 30, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. The gentling demonstration by the Laumans will also be Friday, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. On Saturday May 31, animal viewing and adopter registration will continue beginning at 8:00 a.m. The competitive oral bid adoption begins at 9:30 a.m. Rick and Kitty Lauman will also be available that morning for a Question and Answer Session about gentling wild horses and burros.

Interested adopters should submit adoption applications to the Spokane BLM office, 1103 N. Fancher, Spokane, WA 99212, as soon as possible. Registration is also required at the adoption site prior to the adoption to participate in the competitive bid adoption. The minimum bid is \$125 per animal, except for jack burros that start at a minimum bid of \$25.

The BLM Adopt-a-Wild Horse or Burro program locates homes for wild horses removed from public rangelands to maintain an appropriate management level. Gathering of excess animals for adoption helps to maintain balance between wild horses and burros, native wildlife, domestic grazing, and their habitat. **For application forms and further information on adoption requirements and bidding procedures, contact the Spokane BLM, 1103 N. Fancher, Spokane, WA. Telephone 1-800-997-2022 for recorded information or to connect to BLM staff during office hours. Some information is available online at www.or.blm.gov/spokane. Or call the nationwide toll free number for Wild Horse & Burro information at 1-866-4MUSTANGS.**

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